

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

Sub
a1

1. A system for generating a device user interface executable by an information handling system, comprising:

- a processor for executing instructions on the information handling system and
- a memory coupled to said processor for storing instructions for execution by said processor;
- a device database including listing available user interface components for implementing control functions of a device coupled to the information handling system;
- a resource database including the user interface components;
- a user interface generator for determining whether the device is included in said device database and for retrieving the user interface components for that device from said resource database; and
- a layout manager for assembling the user interface components retrieved by said user interface generator into a user interface executable by the information handling system to control the device.

2. A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device is a multimedia device controlled by the information handling system.

3. A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said device database is created without requiring user intervention.

4. A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said resource database is created without requiring user intervention.

5. A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the user interface components of said resource database comprise discrete objects.

means for assembling the implementing means retrieved by said determining and generating means into a user interface executable by the information handling system to control the device.

10. A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the implementing means comprises a discrete object variable.

Sub
a3

662270-5233260

1 11. A computer implemented method for generating a device user interface
2 for an information handling system, comprising:
3 identifying a device coupled to the information handling system to be
4 controlled by the user interface;
5 comparing the identified device to a database of devices for which user
6 interface resource components are available for implementing the functions of the
7 device and determining whether the device is listed in the database;
8 retrieving user interface components for implementing functions of the device;
9 and
10 creating the user interface from the user interface components.

1 12. A method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising the steps of, in
2 the event the device is not listed in the database, determining whether a similar device
3 similar to the device is listed in the database; in the event a similar device is not listed
4 in the database, executing said generic device user interface components retrieving
5 step; otherwise, executing said device specific user interface components retrieving
6 step.

1 13. A method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising the step of
2 displaying the user interface on a display coupled to the information handling system
3 such that a user may control the device with the user interface.

1 14. A method as claimed in claim 11, said creating step being implemented
2 without requiring user intervention.

1 15. A method as claimed in claim 11, the user interface components
2 comprising discrete objects.

1 16. A computer implemented program of instructions storable on a
2 computer readable medium and executable by an information handling system, the
3 contents of the program of instructions causing an information handling system to
4 execute steps for generating a device user interface for the information handling
5 system, the steps comprising:
6 identifying the device coupled to the information handling system to be
7 controlled by the user interface;
8 comparing the identified device to a database of devices for which user
9 interface resource components are available for implementing the functions of the
10 device and determining whether the device is listed in the database;
11 retrieving user interface components for implementing specific functions of
12 the device; and
13 creating the user interface from the assembled user interface components.

1 17. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 16, the steps further
2 comprising the steps of, in the event the device is not listed in the database,
3 determining whether a similar device similar to the device is listed in the database; in
4 the event a similar device is not listed in the database, executing said generic device
5 user interface components retrieving step; otherwise, executing said device specific
6 user interface components retrieving step.

1 18. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 16, the steps further
2 comprising the step of displaying the user interface on a display coupled to the
3 information handling system such that a user may control the device with the user
4 interface.

1 19. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 16, said assembling step
2 being implemented without requiring user intervention.

1 20. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 16, the user interface
2 components comprising discrete objects.